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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Chennakeshu, S.	)	
Serial No.:	09/237,358	)	Examiner: Kumar, P.
Filing Date:	January 26, 1999	)	Art Unit: 2631
Title:	Reduced Complexity MLSE Equalizer For M-ary Modulated Signals	)	

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

This is a continuing prosecution application (CPA) preliminary amendment addressing the Final Office Action mailed September 9, 2002 for the above captioned case.

In the Claims:

1. (Twice Amended) In a receiver, a method for determining a branch metric in a nonlinear maximum-likelihood sequence-estimation equalizer which receives at least one antenna signal modulated with M-ary modulation, said method comprising the steps of:

pre-computing values equal to a product of a complex number and a hypothesized symbol value;

storing said pre-computed values in a product look-up table;

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